The Gospel According to the
National Preaching Mission
Nov. 29, 1936

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Intro. The National Preaching Mission is a united effort on the part of the Churches of Christ to bring about a spiritual awakening in America by presenting the full Gospel of Jesus Christ in aplication to the whole of life.

I. First let us consider the spiritual awakening of America. Does America need a spiritual awakening?

A. Prominent business man(not church member) "Fruhling, what this country needs is a spiritual awakening". America is living so completely for business, social pleasures and uncontrollable personal desires that it is losing its grip on the fundamentals of right living and losing its appreciation of the spiritual values of life.

My visit to a factory near St.Louis- the noise so great the guide had to shout closeup to ears to make himself heard. In the machine age of our material civilization the still small voice of God can hardly be heard above the din of our own immediate activities. Our very consciences are silenced with the result that our moral sense has been weakened to a great extent.

What is it going to profit America if it gains all material wealth but loses its own soul?

B. The attitude of Aerica towads Jesus Christ and his church is one of growing indifference, I might say, cold indifference.

The very appeal of the Gospel falls largely on deaf ears. Christ's teachings are regarded as fantastic, impracticable, unreal. And His K.of G. for this earth a utopian dream. Th popular reply yo the call of the Gospel is the popular reply to all disturbing questions nowadays- "Oh Yeah!"

2.I.C. The poet, Dante's conception of Hell=
"A block of ice in which Lucifer is frozen"
that hard and terrible coldness which sinks human life lower than the animal level, and freezes the conscience to moral appeal, the mind to high and noble thinking, the heart to unselfish love, and the soul to spiritual realities.

America does need a spiritual awakwning!

II. The Churches of Christ in America have united have united in an attempt to bring about thi spiritual awakwning. Can they do it?

1. The Churches are subordinationg their differences to the need of the hour- the bringing of the American people ba back to God thru Christ.
They are doing team work- denominational ism does'nt count for anything in this united effort.

When and where were the nations of the world closest together? On the battle fields of Europe during the World War slaughtering one another. When and where should the churches of Christ unite? Here in America and right now ~~saving our country~~ raising our nation to a level of living worthy of the intelligence, power and opportunity which God has given us.

The results of the united effort to date are most gratifying.

4) 2. But before the goal can be reached it will be necessary for the members of the various churches to go into training. Let me explain what I mean. The apple tree at the mountain house. moss-covered - hilly some branches and surpassing all the others. Jan 15 - hope to 26.

Many members of our churches are like this tree - they are covered over with other interests than the one for which they exist as church members.

"I am the vine & my father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away and every branch that beareth fruit he purgeth it that it may bear more fruit."

Church members have got to get down to business of the church which is to save America for God thru Christ. As athletes go into training for the game Church members should go into training for this awakening of America to spiritual realities.

Let your trainer coach, Jesus Christ, tell you what to do & what not to do — "You cannot serve god and mammon."
"Seek ye first the kingdom of God"
"He who would save his life shall lose it but he who would lose his life for my sake shall save it."

5/III. The Application of the full gospel of Jesus Christ for the whole of life

1. Nowadays we hear a great deal about the social gospel as over against the gospel for individuals. The distinction does not hold. The gospel of Jesus Christ is neither just social nor just individual it is Both-and

a - It has to do with both the inner life & the outer activities of the individual

If the inner life is Xn and the outer activities pagan the individual is not a Xn he is a hypocrite

One whose inner life is Xn should be Xn in the home, in business, in politics in society.

b - Society is made up of individuals.

Society does not think - only its individual members think

" " speak - " " " " speak

" " act " " " " act

What we think of as social actions must be carried out by individuals - no society is ever better than the individuals who compose it

The Gospel of Jesus Christ aims to socialize the individual by making him think & act the right way and treat them accordingly. A man is justified in thinking highly of himself but when he learns to think justly of others he makes a decided social & moral & spiritual advance.

The gospel of Jesus Christ develops the kind of character that society needs, to reach its highest levels. A man whose character is

6/. Christian can be trusted in all the relationships of life. He will, as a tru, fulfill every obligation in all his relationships in life.

2. When the full gospel of Jesus Christ thus transforms the whole of the individual's life he lives on a heavenly plane. What is heaven? I gave you Saint's definition of hell — now let me give you the definition of heaven — "the perfect flower of a rose of love and fire." spiritual Perfect beauty and exhaustless passion cleansed from every stain.

Heaven is truth on fire, goodness on fire, & beauty on fire, love on fire, but never consumed. Heaven is the light and the warmth of life!

To live in christ's heaven is to have a mind that is on fire with God's truth wherever found and demonstrated by whatever facts & realities. To live in the heaven is to have a heart aflame with ~~that~~ God's goodness & love, To live in His heaven is to have a conscience that burns true to God's moral & spiritual standards. In short it is a life in harmony with God's will.

Will you accept the challenge?
Are you willing to pay the price?